

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 NSC-10 PM-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 EB-11

AID-20 TRSE-00 CEA-02 AGR-20 SIL-01 LAB-06 COME-00

SCEM-02 INT-08 OMB-01 /142 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PBOR, PINT

SUBJECT: ACOSTA MEETINGS WITH ARA OFFICERS

1. ON AUGUST 7 MANUEL ACOSTA BONILLA MOF HONDURAS, HONDURAN CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT ALBERTO GALEANO, AND HONDURAN AMBASSADOR ROBERTO GALVEZ MET WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMANN AND ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR HERMAN KLEINE. HONDURAN GROUP ALSO PAID A SHORT CALL ON USOAS AMBASSADOR JOVA.

2. SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH SHLAUDEMANN AND KLEINE INCLUDED PURPOSE OF ACOSTA VISIT TO WASHINGTON, I.E. TO SEEK A CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN FROM THE WORLD BANK AND HELP ON A FORESTRY PROGRAM FROM THE IDB. ACOSTA ALSO
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BROUGHT UP A PROPOSAL FOR DOLS. 20 MILLION IN SPECIFIC

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, NOTING THAT THE SAME LIST HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO AID IN TEGUCIGALPA. ACOSTA MENTIONED AGRARIAN REFORM AND SPOKE ENTHUSIASTICALLY OF SETTling 15 THOUSAND FAMILIES NEXT YEAR. ACOSTA SAID THAT THE POLITICAL SITUATION IS TRANQUIL AT THE PRESENT AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS SUCCEEDED IN OBTAINING THE SUPPORT OF CAMPESINOS AND WORKERS. IN DISCUSSING RESTRUCTURING OF CACM, ACOSTA NOTED THAT THE BORDER SITUATION WITH EL SALVADOR MUST BE RESOLVED PRIOR TO FULL HONDURAS

PARTICIPATION IN CACM. HE SAID THAT RECENT BORDER INCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO AS LONG AS THE SITUATION REMAINS SO VOLATILE. HE NOTED THAT HONDURAS HAD REQUESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN CALL A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION AND WAS VERY PLEASED WHEN AMBASSADOR JOVA INFORMED HIM THAT A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN WITH THE EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS FOREIGN MINISTERS IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 20.

3. TEGUCIGALPA 2926 ARRIVED AUGUST 8. AS OF AUGUST 7 DISCUSSIONS WITH ACOSTA, DEPARTMENT WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT MINISTER OF ECONOMY BENNATON WAS IN CHARGE OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH TEXACO. IN ORDER TO AVOID PARALLEL APPROACHES, THE SUBJECT OF PETROLEUM WAS NOT DISCUSSED WITH ACOSTA. HE IS, HOWEVER, PLANNING TO RETURN TO HONDURAS ON AUGUST 9 AND THUS WILL BE ABLE TO DISCUSS THE PETROLEUM PROBLEM PRIOR TO THE AUGUST 13 DEADLINE.

4. AIRGRAM CONTAINING DETAILS OF ACOSTA MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE POUCHED. ROGERS

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